

[Mexican Boy Captured by Apache Indians]

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#65-1700 J. [Quamndo?], N. Mex.

MEXICAN BOY CAPTURED BY APACHE INDIANS

Today there lives up a picturesque canyon six miles southeast of [Quamndo?] one of our most reliable pioneer Mexican citizens, Dr. Felipe Padilla, who was born May 22, 1866, and who lived for many years at the original cite of [Quamndo?], now [?] ranch, five miles east of the present location of the town. At that time the place was called El [Rito?] [Quamndo?]. The town was established in 1870, and Mr Padilla has lived in Catron county 65 years.

In a person interview, he says:

"In 1880, sometime in May, some Apache Indians under Chief Victorio captured me, a [muchacho?], about 14 year of age, while I was herding sheep on the hills in the Rito lake canyon.

"When the Indians surrounded and captured me, they took me on horseback around the mountains several miles north of [?]. On the [?] they saw a large herd of wild horses and were so anxious to capture some of the caballos that they left me in care of a squaw.

"When the Indians returned from running the horses they told me to go on in front of them. After traveling 200 or 300 yards, one of the braves struck me across the face with a

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quirt; then the Indians, thinking perhaps they had killed me, ran their horses at full speed westward.

“In 1881 a band of Apaches killed three Mexicans near Tree Legumas and stole several teams of oxens, burned two wagons loaded with wool, which belong to my grandfather, Jesus Padilla. Then they passed thru [Quamndo?] and killed three men, August 7 of that year; [?], from Old Mexico, Juan Salis, and Jose Ortis. These men were buried in the old cemetery at [?] ranch, now called “Foothill Cemetery.” The same day they captured two young [muchachos?], about ten years of age, Militon Madrid and Teloafor Sanchez, and kept them with their tribe for three years. After capturing these two boys, they made their way to Las Cebollas (Onions) rancho, owned by [Tiburasio Caroin?], north of Quamndo. There the Indians murdered two more men and captured a young woman, Plasida, August 10, 1881.” C18 - [??]